

# Articles

## a / an

- 1 It's a nice house.  
She's a lawyer.
  - 2 I saw an old man with a dog.
  - 3 What an awful day!
  - 4 I have classes three times a week.
- We use a / an with singular countable nouns:
    - 1 when we say what something is or what somebody does.
    - 2 the first time we mention a thing / person.
    - 3 in exclamations with What...!
    - 4 in expressions of frequency.

## the

- 1 I saw an old man with a dog. **The dog** was barking.
  - 2 **The bell** rang and my father opened **the door**.  
**The children** are at school.
  - 3 **The moon** goes round **the Earth**.
  - 4 I'm going to **the cinema** tonight.
  - 5 It's **the best** restaurant in town.
- We use **the**:
    - 1 when we talk about something we've already mentioned.
    - 2 when it's clear what we're referring to.
    - 3 when there's only one of something.
    - 4 with places in a town, e.g. *cinema, theatre*.
    - 5 with superlatives.

## no article

- 1 Girls often learn to read earlier than **boys**.  
**Love** is more important than **money**.
  - 2 She's not at **home** today.  
I get back **from work** at 5.30.
  - 3 I never have **breakfast**.  
I'm going to the theatre **on Tuesday**.
  - 4 See you **next week**.
- We don't use an article:
    - 1 when we are speaking in general (with plural and uncountable nouns), e.g. *I love flowers*. Compare: *I love **the flowers** in my garden*. (= the specific flowers in that place)
    - 2 with some nouns, e.g. *home, work, school, church, after at / to / from*.
    - 3 before meals, days, and months.
    - 4 before *next / last + day, week, etc.*

## Choose the correct words

1. Yesterday was *hottest / the hottest day* of the year so far.
2. We went to Paris for my birthday *last weekend / the last weekend*.
3. I think *girls / the girls* are better at learning *languages / the languages* than *boys / the boys*.
4. Did you lock *door / the door* when you left *house / the house* this morning?
5. My sister is married to *German / a German*. He's *engineer / an engineer*.
6. I don't usually like *fish / the fish*, but *salmon / the salmon* we had last night was delicious.
7. We go to *cinema / the cinema* once *a week / the week*.
8. Don't worry! It's not *the end / end of the world / world*.
9. Do you think *women / the women* are more sensitive than *men / the men*?
10. What *beautiful day / a beautiful day*! Let's have *lunch / a lunch* in the garden.

## Read the sentences, correct mistakes if there are any.

Example: *That's lovely dress. The colour suits you.*

*That's a lovely dress. The colour suits you.*

1. He's going to visit his parents the next weekends.  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The money doesn't make people happy.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. She always leaves the work at half past six.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. I go to the dentist about twice a year.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Have you worn jacket that you bought last week?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. That was one of the best meals I've ever had.  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. What noisy child! Where are his parents?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Alex is studying to become doctor.  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. I like the cats, but my boyfriend doesn't like them.  
\_\_\_\_\_

Complete the text with A / AN / THE or NO ARTICLE

# DNA

the reason women  
see colours better  
than men

Why are women generally able to see <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ colours better than men? Scientists say there is <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ reason for this, and <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ reason is in our DNA. Our chromosomes contain DNA, which controls many things about us. The ability to see <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ colour red is carried by the X chromosome. Men have only one X chromosome, but <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ women have two of them. This means that it's easier for women to see red. This was important in prehistoric times when women were looking for <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ fruit to eat. They needed to choose <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ right fruit, so they had to be able to see <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ difference between different colours. If they made <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ mistake, they could kill their families and themselves. So, it was more important for women to see different colours, while men had <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ other important skills.

Complete the gaps in the phrases for generalizing and giving opinions.

\_\_\_\_\_, I think  
in my \_\_\_\_\_,  
to be \_\_\_\_\_,  
don't you \_\_\_\_\_  
if you \_\_\_\_\_ me  
I don't think that's \_\_\_\_\_  
I \_\_\_\_\_  
Generally \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ the whole

Make up your own sentences using the phrases above